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General Manager.

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THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE.

SCRANTON, MARCH 8, 1894.

TARIFF AND BUSINESS. It goes without saying that the great body of American business men are heartily tired of this interminable postead of being a means to a national presperity, protection and tranquility ness and finance, the tariff, under the primarily upon self-aggrandizement, flow up bill.

Of current propositions to place a consequences. chick upon those who, indifferent to the general results, make "tariff" or serve for three years, not more than unto the day is the hilarity thereof. four members to belong to one political party. The bill, in detail, arranges for unnual reports on the basis of the unit of quantity and the unit of time of wages paid in the United States and in foreign countries in the manufacture of articles which may come into competition with articles made in this country. The commission is to prepare schedules of customs duties. A previously ascertained formula is to be employed for each schedule to insure a rate of tariff equal to the difference in foreign and American wages. On those imports in which labor is not an important element or upon articles of luxury or upon such as do not come into competition with native products, the commission shall prepare schedules of duties, to be submitted to congress, with reasons for the conclusions eached. The commission is to recommend annually to congress on the irst Monday in December such changes n schedules as it deems necessary for surposes of revenue and to prevent lepression in wages of American worknen and injury to American indusries. Each commissioner is to receive a salary of \$5,000. A president is to be

The enactment of this measure would transfer the details of tariff schedule framing from crude committees where it is too often gone at with the blundering indifference of purely partisan politics animated by a demagogical concern for votes, to experts working upon a purely business basis and personally uninterested in the wordy wars of the torchlight colonels of economics. But with the turning over of its recommendations to the house, the proposed tariff commission would come to the limit of its responsibility and we should, it is to be feared, still have the old spectacular battles of badly digested statistics and gallery-catching rhetoric as annual incidents to a perpetual fight over tariffs. To make Mr. Cullom's scheme practical there is needel first a robust popular sentiment against political jugglery with a thing so vital to our national prosperity, and next an amendment to the constitution prohibiting general changes in the tariff oftener than once in at least ten years.

elected from the number, a secretary

nloyes to be hereafter authorized by

THE EXISTENCE of one peer like Rosehery in every ten, like the average British aristocrat, would save the lords from the wrath to come.

This is the import of the libel law that Wisconsin editors ask their state tegislature to put on the statute books: The principle of exemplary or punitive lamages to be abolished except where malice is shown; the existence of malice to be made a matter of proof and not accepted as a matter of presumption; a person aggrieved to be required to call for a correction before bringing suit; the publication of a retraction to be taken as evidence of no malice and to serve as a bar to an action for exemplary damages; when prompt and satisfactory retraction is made and absence of malice shown, recoverable damages to be limited to actual damages commensurate with the extent of injury proved. If there is any unfairness in this kind of a law it would take a microscope to discover it. To Pennsylvania's shame be it said that we have no such law here.

THE QUALITY of mul, like mercy, is not strained in Scranton.

THOSE FIRE LOSSES. Early this month the Middle Department of Fire Underwriters, meeting at Bethlehem, decided upon an increase fected by the change comprises part of New Jersey, Maryland, the District of Columbia, and the whole of Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia and Pitteburg. During 1893 the companies comprising what is known as the Eastern association lost money to such an extent that they feared bankruptcy unless something should be done to recoup their losses. It was first radical advance, ranging from 25 to 85 per cent. but discussion elicited that this would frighten patrons and and will not, it is said, be deviated

The fact that with every month adding its lavish quota of unimproved public will get the benefit. the work of scientific building there poration's catspaw out of the city

humiliating one for which explanation is sought in vain. Not even in the era oil or tallow dips, was there such a is in this day of structural steel, asbestos walls, tilted floors, iron or marble pillars and slate shingles laid upon metal rafters. To be sure, a large share of ur fires nowadays have their origin in defective electrical wiring and another

considerable share must be attributed to the juxtaposition, in our newer cities, of houses of modern construction with tumble down frame shanties bequeathed by a more primitive period. But even this is not sufficient, in face of the steadily increasing effectiveness of our municipal fire departments and the continually improving quality of building materials and of our building of the people's rights, before boliss regulations, to account for the great clothed with the power to issue franand growing annual totals of our losses litical tinkering with the tariff. In- by fire, totals far outstripping either domain. In many cities the popular our growth in population or the inand patriotic end, to the end of general | creased valuation of the houses that we

build. There may be a solution in the in the common interchanges of busi- fact that buildings nowadays are wise and necessary in its original conerected more closely together, showing manipulation of clever politicians bent a greater economy in ground; but if ference, fall into grave abuse. Every so, it is an unsatisfactory one. The has become a mere football between problem is one that seems to baills ex liswitt; and needs him in duplicate, contending partisans, subject to change planation along lines creditable to triplicate and manifold. Although without notice, accordingly as one popular intelligence. But there is one demagogues go to the other extreme, party replaces the other in power. To thing of which we may feel sore which and are therefore nurrful and danger expect commercial stability under such is that if Americans will persist in an unsettled system is to expect the growing more careless as they grow working disinterestedly in behalf of impossible. As well expict water to older and wealthier, they should not the public rights, form a resource in-

THE PROMINENT Republicans of Lu-"no tariff" a professional livlethood, the | zere who have been honored with sugmost notable is the bill in which Sans- gestive mention as possible candidates tor Cullom provides for a permanent for congress are wisely taking their turiff commission of nine members, to publicity coolly and maintaining the be appointed by the president subject placid tenor of their respective ways. to the approval of the senate, and to They evidently think that sufficient

> In TROY IT is clearly apparent that every ballot means a bullet.

WITH PRACTICAL business men in charge of the tariff revision, instead of mere posing and trimming partisan politicians, does anybody suppose we would have the tariff tinkered at every veering of the partisan weather vans? There is need of greater stability in the treatment of our business interests. and these interests will some of these fine days insist upon their rights

DR. TALMAGE.

It is a curious fact that many of the most conservative of Gotham newspapers are beginning to express doubts of Dr. Talmage's sincerity. The Evening Post, in its merciless politeness, has called him pretty nearly every name not coming under indictment as libel; and now the Tribune, which is, upon religious matters, perhaps the most cautions and charitable of all the great American dailles, intimates that the pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle could, with spiritual profit, cultivate a higher sincerity and a more uniform | circulation editor. regard for the truth.

The incident of Dr. Talmage's anat \$3,000 a year and clerks and em nounced resignation and again of his reconsideration of that resignation, considerations of money, will, it seems charitable to say, grate somewhat harshly upon the sensibilities of those old-fashioned Christians who retain so much of the belief in a gospel without money and without price as disapproves of too evident an introduction of mammon into the service of God. Whether or not Dr. Talmage's course has been misconstrued by these critics is immaterial, compared with the fact that his own words invite such misconstruction and render difficult a rejecjection of the thought that cash, or its equivalent, entered into his thought in determining his future connection with the church in which his fame has neen made.

Nevertheless, the most prejudiced disbeliever in Dr. Talmage's sincerity will be constrained to admit that this pastor's popularity has been a national resource, sending into millions of homes beautiful thoughts and inspiring truths that, whether uttered in all sincerity or coined as a player coins the eloquence of a Shakespears, have stimulated a higher morality and excited a keener appreciation of the joys of true religion. There were man who, after the Tilton scandal, could never abide the mention of Henry Ward Beecher's name; yet no fair-minded man, t whether believing or disbelieving in Beecher's innocence, can deny the immortal character of his public words and work, nor shut eyes to the great impress for good which Beecher, the preacher and teacher, left upon the plastic mind of this generation.

The one fact which stands prominently out in the careers of great men is that it is their virtues and their truths which are immortal; and not their

MURPHY MIGHT get his man counted in as mayor or Troy, but the victory, all things considered, is not one that he will be proud of.

THE GOTHAM business man who told "Holland," one year after his first exultation over Cleveland's election, that he would readily give \$10,000 out of his since shriveled fortune to undo his share of the responsibility for that election, did not overstate the case. There are thousands like him, at least in the percentage, if not in the cash value of their regreta.

WHEN THE Republican party becomes in insurance rates. The new rates courageous enough to stand up to its ranging from 5 to 15 per cent, higher full duty toward victims of the franthan the old ones, and the district af- chise buildozer, it will enter upon a new era of usefulness and power.

ONE MAN'S POWER.

One notable example of the influence of a single advocate, working disinterestedly for the best interests of his community, is supplied in New York By nature and the world, so that I shall not by Abram S. Hewitt's successful fight, before the chamber of commerce, against the proposed indorsement of a decided to make an even more plan to lend the city's credit and part of the city's money to a private corporation that intended to put into operation a gigantic scheme of underre-act upon the insurance companies, ground transit. The point raised by The new schedule is now in force Mr. Hewitt was precisely that which throughout the territory affected, reappears at intervals in all American cities, and sometimes in congress; that is to say, the need of granting public franchises in such a manner that the

methods, materials and appliances to He opposed the effort to make a cor-

SCRANTON TRIBUNE should continue a steady increase in credit, claiming that the underground the percentage of liability to fires is a rights were a municipal resource, which rights were a municipal resource, which ought either to be operated by the city. for the general profit, or else leased to of all wood-houses, lighted by whale private control at a specified rental under well defined restrictions and subratio of flame destructiveness as there | ject to cancellation upon failure to fuifil this voluntary contract. Single handed and alone, against a large body of New York's most prominent business men predisposed to concur in the old idea of corporate extortion, Mr. Hewitt argued his point, until in the end he had the uncommon satisfaction of seeing the president of the proposed private sub-way company concur in the practical sense of his conclusions, and was instrumental in converting the whole chamber to his belief.

This victory is typical of that which must generally follow the munty, persistent and disinterested presentation chises and authorize grants of public intelligence is rips for a firm crusade against those excesses in corporate activity which illustrate how a system, ception, can, through popular indifmunicipality needs its Abram S. ous, sound and sensible business men, be unwilling to stand the pecuniary valuable in the development of our civic institutions.

> GOVERNOR FLOWER'S failure to sign he non-partisan election inspector's ill in Troy takes top rank as the prize error of this blundering Democratic, season. In its awful results it becomes nothing less than a downright crime.

> ly Mr. CROKER intends to sue everybody who suspects that his electoral methods are not strictly immaculate, he will be kept busy in spite of the business depression.

> AND STILL there is no Democrat brave enough to face the gubernatorial issue. Most it, after all resolve itself into Buckalew by default?

> FROM AN outside standpoint it looks as if Field Marshal Wright had had sorrow enough, without counting this last cruel blow.

### Pie Counter.

The bluebird's song athwart the moor In cadence loud doth sweep; But when the blizzard comes his way The springtime song will gradually Sink to a dreary peep.

Court-Can you discriminate between truth and falsehoo !! Witness-I reckon so. I am a newspaper

Dilly-Professor Modd's music is just like the measles. Billy-Why, how do you make that out?

\* \* \* President of Life Insurance company-What did you mean by writing a policy

for that weather-beaten wreck\*' Agent—"Why, sir. he's all right; he draws a pension."—Washington News. \* \* \* Student-I wonder why it is that they always say that orators are born-not

Old Surly-Probably because no one would want to own up having manufac-

tured the majority of them. "How do you like that colored valet you mported from Alabamar" "He won't do." "What's the matter?"

"I told him last night to get out what I seeded for the ball, and he brought me my

azor."—Pittsburg Dispatch. Poet-Did the editor place my manucript on file?

Messenger Boy-Dunno, He said he'd out you on a rack if he had you there,

Old Lady (to niece who is portionless)

How is it, my dear, that you have never
kindled a flame in the bosom of a man?

Niece—The reason, dear nunt, is, as you ell know, that I am not a good match .-Chips.

Blanky-In what respect does Dr. Talmage resemble the Delaware peach crop? Lanky-Give it up. Explain. Blanky-In the uncertainty of spring

ime predictions. Tackit: "Why do the mathematicians make x represent the unknown quan-Lackit; 'Because it stands for \$10. Lackit; Washington News,

Some Passing Thoughts: The position of a "has been" who imigines that he "still is," at times becomes If it were not for the pet dogs many

husbands would stand quite a show in their wives' affections. It is barely possible that there are good people left in the world besides ourselves

Let us not be cynical. Religious craeds that do not interfere with our natural inclinations are always most popular,

The man who has never accomplished anything is generally the most uncompromising critic. A great many men can kick up quite a

ow in a limited circle; but in broader fields they spread thin.

Six Words.

Fix little words lay claim to me each passing I ought, I must, I can, I will, I dare, I may. I Ought—that is the law God on my heart has

The mark for which my soul is with strong I Must-that is the bound set either side the

I Can-that measures out the power intrusted Of action, knowledge, art, skill and dexterity, I Will-no higher crown on human head case rest;
"Tia freedom's signet scal upon the soul im

pressed.

I Dare is the device which on the scal you read,
By freedom's open door a bolt for time of need.

I May among them all hovers uncertainly:
The moment must at last decide what it shall

lought, I must, I can, I will, I dare, I may: The six lay claim to me each hour of every Teach me, O God! and then, then shall I know That which I ought to do, must, can, will, dare and may. \_ "Wisdom of the Brahmin."

This Is the People's Year.

This Is the People's Year.

Entitedelphia Times.

Gratifying as it must be to General Hastings to have the indorsement of his old neighbors, who will be represented in the State convention by ex-Governor Beaver and another well known and prominent citizen of Center county, it is evident that he can spare the delegates from Center and a good many other counties and still be nominated easily. All the counties so far sending instructed delegates have done as the Center Republicans did and instructed for Hastings. He is having it all his own for Hastings. He is having it all his own way, and the failure of any other candi-date to take the field or secure a delegate up to this time shows that he can go about his business and the campaign will take care of itself. The Hasting's boom is boot

The Real Culprit.

Philadelphia Press.
There are no crimes on the catalogue of There are no crimes on the caralogue of which this Murphy "gang" in Troy has not been guilty in order to keep the Demo-cratic party in power. But who is the more guilty? The brutal, ignorant instru-ments who did the dirty work of stuffing registration lists and ballot boxes, of forg-ing tally sheets and raising riots at the poles and committing murder, or the man under whose leadership these crimes man under whose leadership these crimes have been ande possible and who sits in the highest legislative body of the land:

Three Wine Mer-As soon as my vessel reaches port," Said the skipper, with a wail, 'As soon as my vessel reaches port I am going to set my sail.

Said the merchant, looking wise. As soon as my trade picks up a bit I am going to advertise." As soon as my field of grain is grown," Said the farmer, sore in need, As soon as my field of grain is grown

As soon as my trade picks up a bit,"

I am going to sow the seed."

-William Florence in "Brains." Appearances Don't Govern.

I have jest about concluded, After figgerin quite a spell, That appearances don't govern, And that blood don't allus tell,

Sometimes the shaller plowin-

Will raise the biggest crap, And it ain't the tallest maple Allus runs the sweetest sap. It ain't the richest, rankest grass The cattle likes the best; "Tain't likely all the eggs we find

Are the hen's that made the nest. The tallest stalk of corn that grows

In my twenty acre field Ain't got a nubbin on it Nor any sign of yield. The likeliest apple tree that grows
In my neighbor's orchard let
Is full of blossoms every spring,

But the fruit is sure to rot While the crocked, orn'ry seedlin Standin outside by the road, Comes up smllin every season

With a beapin wagon load,

The largest sheep of all the flock May grow the coarsest wool; The finest horse upon the farm May balk before he'll pull. The scrubblest may upon the track

May win the longest heat. While the one that has the backin May be the easiest beat. The sweetest drink I ever took
I drank from out a gourd;
The deepest water in the creek

Is jest above the ford, So I've jest about concluded, After figgerin quite a spell, That appearances don't govern,

And that blood don't allus tell.
-Will W. Pfrimmer. SEE WHAT . . . .

Will buy in the way of a ....

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